

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A method for transmitting payload data in a network between first and second single-line digital subscriber line (SDSL) modems using a standard high data rate digital subscriber line (HDSL) frame format, the frame format including ~~[[a field]]~~ an F/Z bit field in each payload block for enabling a feature corresponding to one of T1 and E1 transmission protocols and not conventionally used for transmitting the payload data, the method comprising directing selected bits of the payload data to an F/Z bit register, and [[employing the field]] automatically inserting one of the selected bits from the F/Z bit register into the F/Z bit field in every frame for transmission of a portion of the payload data.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

receiving the payload data as a data stream with the first SDSL modem;

generating a sequence of data frames in the HDSL frame format with the first SDSL modem; and

transmitting the sequence of data frames to the second SDSL modem.

3-4. (canceled)

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

receiving the payload data as a sequence of data frames in the HDSL frame format from the first SDSL modem with the second SDSL modem; and

decomposing the sequence of data frames into a data stream with the second SDSL modem.

6-7. (canceled)

8. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the network comprises a public telephone network, the first SDSL modem being associated with a central office and the second SDSL modem being associated with a subscriber premises.

9. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the network comprises a public telephone network, the first SDSL modem being associated with a subscriber premises and the second SDSL modem being associated with a central office.

10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) A single-line digital subscriber line (SDSL) modem for transmitting a sequence of data frames including payload data according to a standard high data rate digital subscriber line (HDSL) frame format, the frame format including [[a field]] an F/Z bit field in each payload block for enabling a feature corresponding to one of T1 and E1 transmission protocols and not conventionally used for transmitting the payload data, the modem comprising:

framing circuitry for receiving an incoming data stream and generating the sequence of data frames, the framing circuitry directing selected bits of the payload data to an F/Z bit register, and [[employing the field]] automatically inserting one of the selected bits from the F/Z bit register into the F/Z bit field in every frame ~~for transmission of a portion of the payload data from the incoming data stream;~~ and

modulation circuitry for modulating and transmitting the sequence of data frames.

12-13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A single-line digital subscriber line (SDSL) modem for receiving a sequence of data frames including payload data in a standard high data rate digital subscriber line (HDSL) frame format, the frame format including [[a field]] an F/Z bit field in each payload block for enabling a feature corresponding to one of T1 and E1 transmission protocols and not conventionally used for transmitting the payload data, the modem comprising:

demodulation circuitry for receiving and demodulating the sequence of data frames; and

framing circuitry for receiving the demodulated sequence of data frames and generating a data stream, the framing circuitry directing bits in the F/Z bit field of the demodulated sequence to an F/Z bit register, and automatically inserting a portion of the payload data stored in the field one of the bits from the F/Z bit register into the data stream for every frame.

15-16. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) An apparatus for transmitting data in a network between first and second single-line digital subscriber line (SDSL) modems using a standard high data rate digital subscriber line (HDSL) frame format, the frame format including [[a field]] an F/Z bit field in each payload block for enabling a feature corresponding to one of T1 and E1

transmission protocols and not conventionally used for transmitting the payload data, the apparatus comprising framing circuitry programmed to [[employ the field]] direct selected bits of the payload data to an F/Z bit register, and automatically insert one of the selected bits from the F/Z bit register into the F/Z bit field in every frame for transmission of a portion of the payload data.

20. (currently amended) At least one computer readable medium having computer program instructions stored therein for causing a network device to transmit data in a network between first and second single-line digital subscriber line (SDSL) modems using a standard high data rate digital subscriber line (HDSL) frame format, the frame format including [[a field]] an F/Z bit field in each payload block for enabling a feature corresponding to one of T1 and E1 transmission protocols and not conventionally used for transmitting the payload data, the computer program instructions comprising first instructions for [[employing the field]] direct selected bits of the payload data to an F/Z bit register, and automatically insert one of the selected bits from the F/Z bit register into the F/Z bit field in every frame for transmission of a portion of the payload data.

21-22. (canceled)